

Name of Program	Matching Funds for Retention Incentives (MFFRI) for Early Care and Education Providers
Description	<p>This initiative aims to improve the quality of early care and education (ECE) programs by addressing high staff turnover in the field and facilitating professional development. First 5 California provided matching funds to 42 participating County Commissions to support local programs that provide incentives to family child-care providers and center-based ECE staff for staying in their jobs and increasing their level of ECE training. This initiative is a pilot project and is scheduled to end in June 2003.</p> <p>First 5 California has contracted with PACE to assess these retention and training programs. The goals of the evaluation are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To evaluate the effectiveness of alternative child-care retention incentive (CRI) models in decreasing turnover rates and increasing training among ECE staff; and 2) To assess how the level of program implementation affects these outcomes. <p>PACE has placed evaluation information on the Center for Child Care Workforce's website: http://www.caccwrc.org/research/current.htm#pace). This information is based on individual-level participant data about child-care staff and family child-care providers from the 14 counties that began CRI programs in fiscal year 2000-2001. Basic demographic and administrative information has been collected from the consenting participants, using, where applicable, the same categories found in the U.S. Census 2000 such as "education level" and "race/ethnicity" to permit comparison among counties and the larger population in the counties.</p> <p>Because the counties vary widely in size, population and economic conditions, PACE has provided context for the data about the programs, by describing some distinguishing economic features for each county. Program designs vary as well.</p> <p>The information obtained from the evaluation will help inform First 5 California's policy direction and funding decisions for future workforce initiatives.</p>
Administering Agency and Partners	Policy Analysis for California Education
Website Link	http://pace.berkeley.edu/pace_eval_matching_funds.html
Resources Available	Evaluation Report